

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5           1. A method for transmitting arbitrary font data to  
an output device, said method comprising:  
            determining whether rendering information for  
the font data to be transmitted is resident on the  
output device; and  
10           if the rendering information for the font data  
to be transmitted is not resident on the output  
device, transmitting to the output device rendering  
information for the font data to be transmitted.
- 15           2. The method of Claim 1, wherein:  
            the output device comprises a printer.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein:  
            the rendering information for the font data to  
20           be transmitted comprises glyph information and  
bitmap data associated with an image.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein:  
            the rendering information for the font data to  
25           be transmitted further comprises position data  
specifying a location for rendering the image.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein:  
            the font data to be transmitted comprises a  
30           character identifier associated with a character  
image.
6. The method of Claim 4 wherein:  
            the character identifier comprises either a  
35           single byte identifier including one data byte or a  
multiple byte identifier including two or more data  
bytes.

7. The method of Claim 3 wherein:

the character image comprises an ideographic character.

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8. A computer program product comprising computer program code for a method for transmitting arbitrary font data to an output device, said method comprising:

10 determining whether rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is resident on the output device; and

15 if the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted is not resident on the output device, transmitting to the output device rendering information for the font data to be transmitted.

9. The computer program product of Claim 8, wherein:

20 the output device comprises a printer.

10. The computer program product of Claim 8, wherein:

25 the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted comprises glyph information and bitmap data associated with an image.

11. The computer program product of Claim 10, wherein said method further comprises:

30 the rendering information for the font data to be transmitted further comprises position data specifying a location for rendering the image.

12. The computer program product of Claim 8, wherein:

35 the font data to be transmitted further comprises a character identifier associated with a character image.

13. The computer program product of Claim 12,  
wherein:

5       the character identifier comprises either a  
single byte identifier including one data byte or a  
multiple byte identifier including two or more data  
bytes.

14. The computer program product of Claim 10,  
10 wherein:

the character image comprises an ideographic  
character.

15. An apparatus comprising:

15       a processor; and

20       a memory coupled to said processor, and storing  
computer code implementing a method of transmitting  
arbitrary font data to an output device wherein upon  
execution of said method on said processor, said  
method comprises:

      determining whether rendering information for  
the font data to be transmitted is resident on the  
output device; and

25       if the rendering information for the font data  
to be transmitted is not resident on the output  
device, transmitting to the output device rendering  
information for the font data to be transmitted,  
wherein the rendering information comprises glyph  
information and bitmap data associated with an  
30       image.

16. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:

35       the rendering information further comprises  
position data specifying a location for rendering  
the image.

17. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:

the output device comprises a printer.

18. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein:

5 the font data to be transmitted further  
comprises a character identifier associated with a  
character image.

19. The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein:

10 the character identifier comprises either a  
single byte identifier including one data byte or a  
multiple byte identifier including two or more data  
bytes.

20. The computer program product of Claim 10,

15 wherein:

the character image comprises an ideographic  
character.